



Gray Wolf Trail Crew -in partnership with- BCHW, Peninsula Chapter

Hoh Lake Trail, ONP

August 5-9, 2026

Report by Rebecca Wanagel



Crew members

Kellie Creamer
Tim Goss
Paul Kamps
Martin Knowles
Randy Kraxberger
Barbara Maxwell
Cricket Pomeroy
Ted Spoon
Rebecca Wanagel

Packers and Animals

Rachael Taylor-Tuller
Matthew Tuller
Isadora Tuller
>Blue
>Biskit
>Woody
>Maize
>Dolly
>Possi
Harold Wiese
>Sugar
>Archie
>Belle
>Katy

Quick Stats

On-trail volunteer hours (including packer time): 496
Hours including travel time: 609
Miles worked: 5
Elevation gain from bottom to top of work: 3500 feet
Trail rating: Hiker only (but the Hoh River trail itself is, of course, in great shape for stock!)

Objectives:

1. Construct a 440-foot reroute along a 250-foot section of trail that was washed away completely by Hoh Creek
2. Clear all logs from the Hoh River trail junction to Hoh Lake (about 70 logs)
3. Brush the trail completely from junction to the ridge and then about ¼ mile along the ridge.

Achieved: All above objectives achieved.

The **Hoh Lake trail** goes from the **Hoh River trail** to the High Divide.

We worked from the junction with the Hoh River trail to Hoh Lake. No work was needed on the last 1.2 miles up to the Divide.

You can tell from the sheer number of switchbacks that this is a very steep trail. It was very slow and laborious for us to get up this trail multiple times, the first time with very heavy packs. We also had to carry and cache water since there was no water to gather unless you were down low or up high on the trail.

Our incredible volunteer packers dropped and retrieved our tools from the junction of the Hoh Lake and Hoh River trails - a distance of about 9.5 miles from the Hoh River trailhead.



The story in pictures ...

This work would not have been possible without our beloved packers getting the tools and equipment to the junction.



Olympus Guard Station



Isadora was learning how to wrangle, riding Blue and leading Biskit. She liked it but says she prefers 4-H.



What is this?

It is that. Or was anyway. Part of the trail was washed into the Hoh Creek.

The thin red line is the reroute we put in to re-establish the trail.



Once we got that done, then we moved on to clearing logs and brush from the rest of the trail.



Before

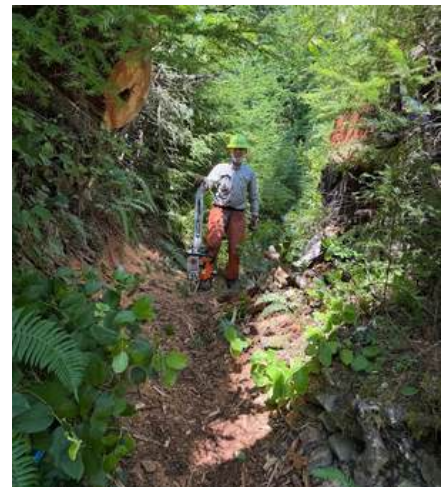
Some
brush
removed



Almost
done

This was a project we ALL wanted gone ASAP. Really hard to fight your way through, especially with a pack on.

After!





Above and below of the same tree. That rootball has been down so long it was growing its own forest. We left the rootball but made the path around it better and cleared an opening through it on the trail below the switchback.



Folks had to crawl through a creek to get past this one.



Not anymore!



Another random but typical project



We had a lovely place to camp by the Hoh River. Great company and lots of laughs despite having worked extremely hard all day.

Then our favorite project. This humongous log was towards the bottom, a half-mile up. It was notched many years ago but still awkward and difficult to get over. We decided to take it out. It was our last project (we had worked from top down) so we had fun putting both saw teams on one project.



This was a 6-foot diameter doug fir. But so old that some of it fell apart for us, making the dismantling of it very fun! The inside core was still solid though, amazingly so given how long it's been rotting.

My favorite picture!



Where are the pictures of the brushing crew's accomplishments? They are not here because they were working so unbelievably hard they had no time to stop for frivolous picture taking! They were running the power brushers and furiously going up and down the trail tossing the debris and cleaning up the trail. They were also cutting small trees from the uphill side of the trail and tackling branches that were encroaching and hitting people in the face. And sweating buckets, like we all were. It was hot and muggy.

The brushing crew also contended with ground-nesting yellowjackets. Ug.

I can tell you, though, their work made this trail a joy to hike once again. Being able to see your feet and look around you when you're hiking is priceless. And with the brush cut away on the uphill side, that will prevent the trail from moving downhill, which makes it really hard to keep your balance. Thank you, brushing crew!

